

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 114352

ORIGIN ARA-14

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PEPR, XR

SUBJECT: ARA WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS - APRIL 27 - MAY 3

1. COSTA RICA INAUGURATION - ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN,  
FOLLOWING HIS MAY 3-5 VISIT TO MEXICO WITH THE SECRETARY  
FOR THE MEETING OF THE U.S.-MEXICAN CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM,  
WILL TRAVEL TO COSTA RICA MAY 6 FOR THE INAUGURATION OF  
PRESIDENT CARAZO. MRS. CARTER WILL HEAD THE U.S.  
DELEGATION.

2. CECON, SUGAR, AND PROTECTIONISM - PROTECTIONISM WAS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 114352

THE PRINCIPAL THEM: AND SUGAR THE DOMINANT TOPIC AT THE  
OAS-CECON TRADE CONSULTATIVE MEETING IN SANTO DOMINGO  
APRIL 24-29. DAS ARELLANO LED THE U.S. DELEGATION.  
LATIN CRITICISM OF GSP AND THE THREAT OF PROTECTIONISM  
WAS FORCEFUL, BUT THE DELEGATION WAS ABLE, ESPECIALLY  
WITH CHILEAN COOPERATION, TO NEGOTIATE A MUTUALLY  
ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION ON GSP AND TO ABSTAIN ON RATHER

THAN VOTE AGAINST THE REMAINING PROPOSALS, OTHER THAN  
THE ONE ATTACKING OUR SUGAR POLICY WHERE IT FINALLY WAS  
NECESSARY TO REGISTER A NEGATIVE U.S. POSITION. WE ARE  
REVIEWING CECON FROM THE STANDPOINT OF U.S. INTERESTS  
AND HOW IT MIGHT BE TRANSFORMED INTO A MORE PRODUCTIVE  
MEANS OF CONSULTATION.

3. F-5'S DENIED TO GUATEMALA - THE SECRETARY DECIDED  
AGAINST SELLING TO GUATEMALA 5 F-5E'S REQUESTED BY  
PRESIDENT LAUGERUD. OUR AMBASSADOR TOLD THE GUATEMALAN  
PRESIDENT THAT IT IS U.S. POLICY NOT TO BE THE FIRST  
TO INTRODUCE INTO A REGION AN ADVANCED WEAPONS SYSTEM  
WHICH CREATES A NEW OR SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER COMBAT CAPA-  
BILITY. THE F-5E WOULD HAVE BEEN THE FIRST TRULY  
SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT IN CENTRAL AMERICA. THE PROPOSED  
SALE WAS ALSO CONSIDERED IN TERMS OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S  
COMMITMENT TO REDUCE ARMS TRANSFERS WORLDWIDE AND THE  
GLOBAL CEILING ON THE ARMS SOLD BY THE U.S. IN A GIVEN  
YEAR. PRESIDENT LAUGERUD SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE  
PROBLEMS AND ASKED ABOUT BUYING LESS SOPHISTICATED PLANES,  
SUCH AS THE F-100. THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE IMPLIED THE  
GUATEMALANS WILL NOW ATTEMPT TO BUY SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT  
FROM FRANCE, ISRAEL OR ANOTHER COUNTRY.

4. USSR ON THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO - IN A SPEECH ON  
APRIL 25 BREZHNEV STATED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD "DECIDED  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 114352

TO ACCEDE IN DUE MANNER" TO THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO  
(I.E., TO PROTOCOL II), "LIKE OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS" NOT  
TO ASSIST ANY LATIN COUNTRY IN GAINING NUCLEAR WEAPONS,  
TO "RESPECT THE ZONE" AND TO REFRAIN FROM THE USE OF  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST STATES PARTY TO THE AGREEMENT.  
THIS IS IMPORTANT TO OUR NON-PROLIFERATION GOALS IN LATIN  
AMERICA AND IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ENCOURAGING ACTION BY  
THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT COMPLETED THEIR OBLIGATION.  
(FRANCE, ARGENTINA, AND CUBA.)

5. STATE AND DOD OFFICERS VISIT PANAMA - AMBASSADOR  
POPPER (S/AB) AND LT. GENERAL DOLVIN OF DOD ARE HEADING  
A GROUP OF STATE AND DOD OFFICERS VISITING PANAMA BE-  
TWEEN MAY 1-5. THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT IS TO NEGOTIATE  
FINAL LANGUAGE FOR THE INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION FOR  
THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES AND FOR THE PROTOCOL OF  
EXCHANGE. DRAFTS HAD BEEN EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE TWO  
COUNTRIES, BUT THERE IS A NEED TO RECONCILE VIEWS ON HOW  
TO ADDRESS THE NON-INTERVENTION ISSUE IN THE INSTRUMENTS.  
AGREEMENT ON THE TEXTS OF THE INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION  
AND THE PROTOCOL OF EXCHANGE IS A NECESSARY PRELUDE TO  
PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO PANAMA JUNE 16-17 AT WHICH

TIME THE INSTRUMENTS WILL BE DELIVERED.

6. PETER JOHNSON OF OUR BUREAU'S CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, IS LEAVING ARA FOR A SIMILAR POSITION IN EUR, WHERE HE WILL HAVE SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS ON THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS. PHYLLIS OAKLEY, FORMERLY OUR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OFFICER IN ARA/RPP, WILL REPLACE PETER IN PPC. PETER HAS EARNED MANY COMMENDATIONS FOR HIS OFFICE'S FINE WORK ON THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY EFFORT.

CHRISTOPHER

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